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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Black Sea)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Port of Odessa	DATE DISTR.	22 September 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	4
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT	
		REFERENCES	

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This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. [] ship visited the Port of Odessa from 4 to 12 April 1954. Instructions in the Nemedri were followed in approaching the harbor. The radio beacon at Cape Fontan could not be heard. The pilot came on board immediately outside the harbor and was dropped at the same position upon departure of the ship, at which time he gave instructions that the course should be continued for a minimum of three nautical miles offshore before setting a course south. [] ship was assisted in port by a modern motor tug similar in size to the Norwegian ÅSENFJORD and berthed close to the grain elevator in the southeast section of Quarantine Harbor.
2. The quay where [] ship berthed was constructed of crushed rock surfaced with cobblestone. Along the quay from the inner bay (sic) to the corner of the Platonovskiy Mole was a wooden fender structure four meters wide. At the edge of the quay in front of the grain elevator was a high wooden structure (see Sketch 1 on page 3) connected by an elevated conveyor belt with the elevator. On top of the wooden structure was a small house for the operator of the chute used in loading ships, and under this house was a small platform for use by the guards on the quay. Midway between the edge of the quay and the grain elevator, the conveyor belt was supported by a mobile steel structure. Between the supporting structure and the elevator wall were two railroad tracks. Grain was being deposited in the elevator from railroad cars on the inner track.
3. Beyond the grain elevator was a small crane of one to two-ton capacity. There were several comparatively small mobile cranes in the harbor area, some mounted on tracks and some on wheels. On the outer side of the quarantine mole, where passenger boats tied up, fork lifts were in

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use. In the Quarantine Harbor were two large floating cranes of approximately 50 tons lifting capacity. One was equipped with two diesel motors and two propellers. The other was of earlier production and had no drive machinery. Both bore name plates in English.

4. There were hydrants on the quay. A dumping area (point 1, Sketch 2 on page 4) for scrap iron, including old artillery piece platforms from merchant ships, large machines, and iron chests, lay at the southwest angle of the Quarantine Harbor. On the northwest side of the harbor was a large new concrete building of several stories, which appeared to be a warehouse (point 2, Sketch 2 on page 4).
5. Three merchant ships of about 5,000 tons each were under repair in the Quarantine Harbor. One had a new superstructure. In front of [redacted] ship were two passenger ships of 2,000 tons undergoing overhaul. One had been fitted with a new bronze propeller. Both vessels were equipped with radar. 25X1
6. [redacted] saw a passenger ship of 18,000 tons leave the floating dock which lay at the breakwater. Outside the quarantine mole were a passenger ship of 12,000 tons and two combination passenger and cargo vessels of about the same tonnage. One of the two was discharging cargo in sacks marked "Made in England." There were many tugs in the harbor. 25X1
7. On 4 April, a medium tonnage naval vessel, with two funnels and torpedo tubes behind each funnel, was anchored in port. On 5 April, the vessel proceeded out to sea towing a target screen. There were also in port three or four small naval vessels with plastic domes on top of short masts. At the breakwater was a fully rigged sailing vessel, presumably a training ship.
8. Each day a troop of soldiers marched over the quarantine mole. Every morning about 50 young marines passed over the mole, returning in the evening.
9. Selection of clothing in Odessa stores was poor and prices were high. A straw hat cost approximately 35 rubles, work shoes 80 rubles, and women's shoes as high as 350 rubles a pair. Outside the entrance to the harbor area there was usually a group of youths 10 to 12 years old who purchased American cigarettes at three rubles a pack. Neckties were eagerly sought for the black market, with prices quoted between 20 and 50 rubles. There was also a demand for all types of luxury articles, such as women's stocking and cosmetics. 25X1

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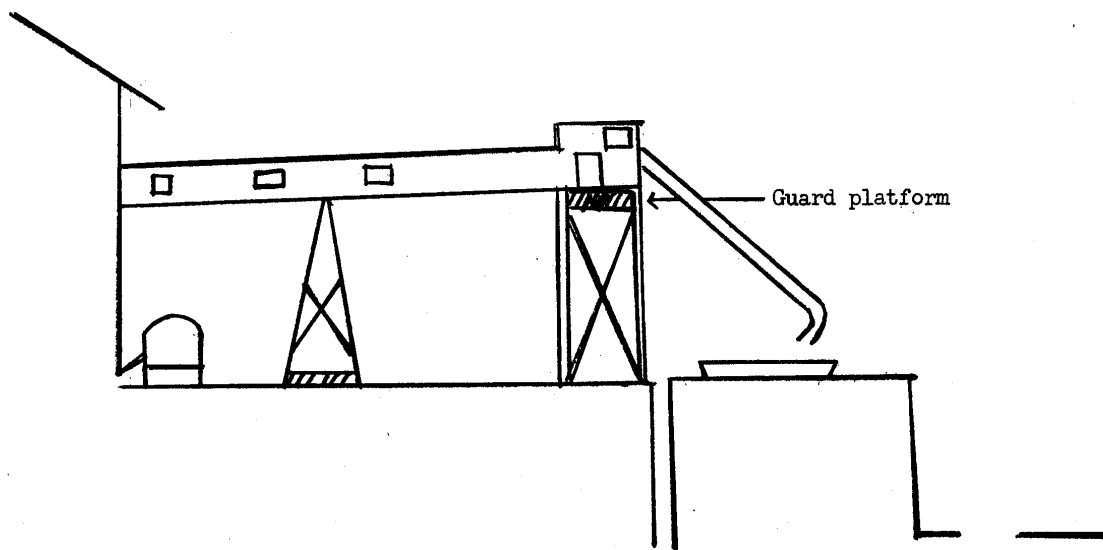
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Sketch No. 1

Grain Elevator
at Odessa



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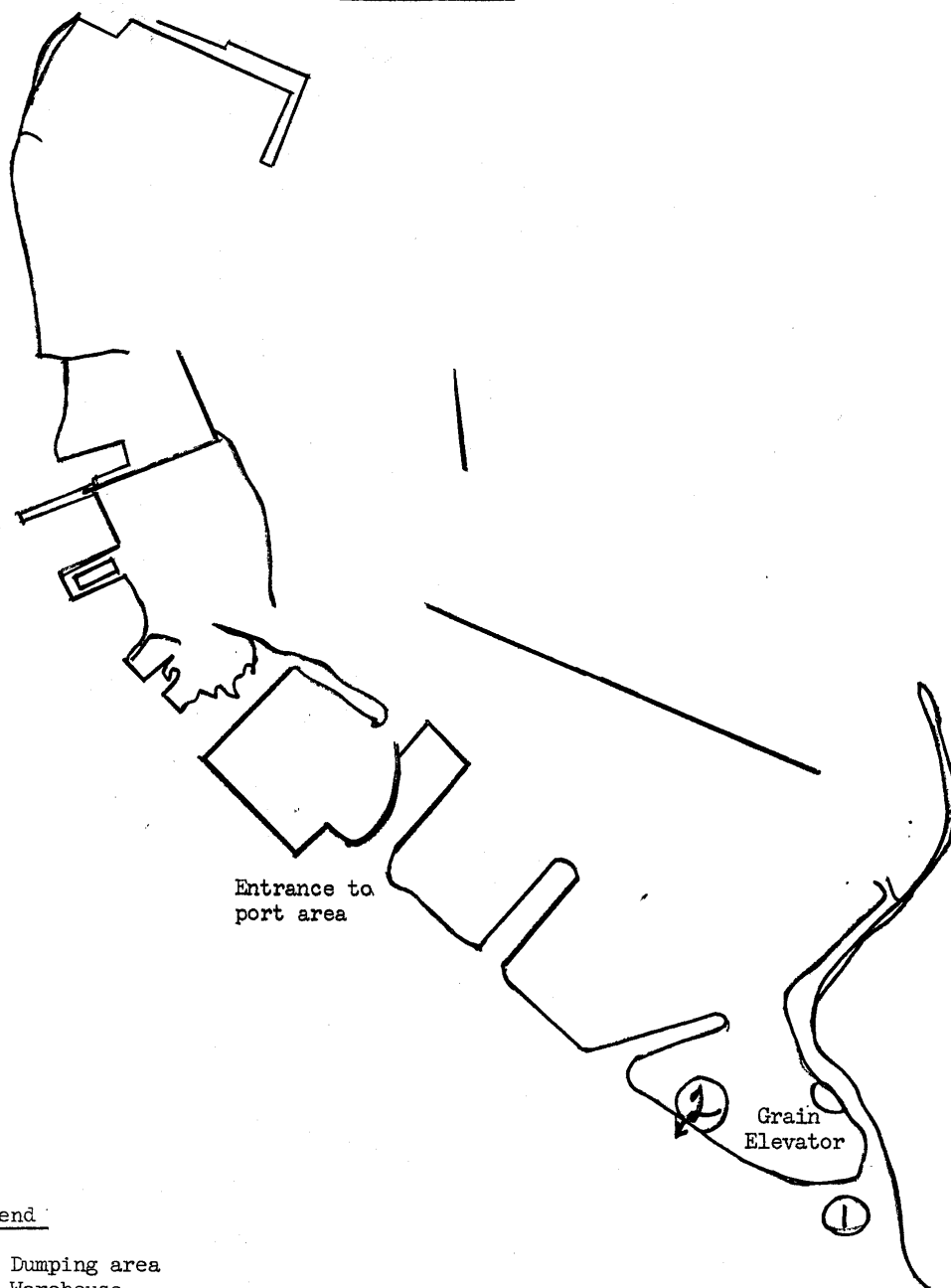
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Sketch No. 2

Port of Odessa



Legend

- 1. Dumping area
- 2. Warehouse

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